Teamsters' Story On Gifts Vary; Mention Clement

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—A U.S. District Court jury has heard two opposite stories on whether a Chattanooga teamster official bribed a judge.

Glenn W. Smith, president of Chattanooga Teamsters Local 515, says he spent $18,500 of union funds in 1951 to get Judge Raulston (Schoolfield) to quash labor violence indictments against himself and 12 other teamsters.

He contends the money was not income for that reason and that he is innocent of fraud in not reporting it in his income tax return.

Mention Clement's Name

Charles Pendergast, of Birmingham, Ala., a teamsters international officer in 1951, testified Wednesday he was told that the money was to be spent as a contribution to Gov. Frank Clement's campaign.

Clement was in the army in 1951, and was not elected governor until the next year, although he had indicated he would run when he returned from service. He had no comment on Pendergast's testimony.

Later, however, the Nashville lawyer to whom Smith said he gave the money, testified he knew nothing about any such transaction, and denied that any reference was made of any payoff at a meeting Pendergast mentioned.

A. O. Buck agreed that he met with Pendergast and R. M. Chricton in Chattanooga and discussed the case, but said the meeting ended soon after he told the others that he didn't know anybody connected with Schoolfield.

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U.S. Dist. Atty. Fred Elledge Jr. asked him, "Did you see Glenn W. Smith at anytime on July 3, 1951 (the date Smith said the money was passed)?"

Makes Denials

"I did not," replied Buck.

"Did Glenn Smith pay over to you $18,500 or any part of $18,500 on July 3?" asked Elledge.

"He did not. Nor on any other date did he pay me $18,500 or any other sum of money," Buck answered.

The trial was adjourned until Monday.